

MAR 08 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE 'IMILOA ASTRONOMY CENTER TO FURTHER ITS ROLE IN
DEVELOPING AND LEADING EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS CONCERNING THE
CULTURAL, NATURAL, AND HISTORIC RESOURCES ON MAUNA KEA AT
HALE PŌHAKU AND ENCOURAGING THE TRANSFER OF EDUCATION
OUTREACH AT THE HALE PŌHAKU TO THE 'IMILOA ASTRONOMY CENTER.

1 WHEREAS, this body commends the efforts of the 'Imiloa
2 Astronomy Center ('Imiloa) in its use of Native Hawaiian
3 knowledge, culture, and history at the Mauna Kea Visitor
4 Information Station Onizuka Center for International Astronomy,
5 also known as Hale Pōhaku or Mid-Level Support Facility; and
6

7 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa was built upon unprecedented collaboration
8 between the Hawaiian community, led by the University of Hawai'i
9 at Hilo Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani, College of Hawaiian
10 Language, and the astronomical community to establish its
11 mission and purpose; and
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13 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa has served as a piko, a gathering place,
14 that brings together various audiences to engage in experiences
15 grounded in the indigenous Hawaiian worldview that has showcased
16 academic and scientific research since 2006; and
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18 WHEREAS, over the past thirteen years, 'Imiloa has served
19 over 1,000,000 visitors, ranging in audiences from pre-
20 kindergarten to twelfth grade students, university students and
21 faculty, members of the local community, visitors to Hawai'i, and
22 local and global scientific communities, and has hosted outreach
23 events at various community sites throughout the world for
24 general public engagement; and
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26 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa, in partnership with the University of
27 Hawai'i at Hilo College of Hawaiian Language, has created
28 opportunities for Hawaiian language growth and normalization
29 through projects that establish the Hawaiian language as
30 standard operations, including the naming of major astronomical
31 discoveries in the Hawaiian language; and
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1 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa is a founding member of 'Ohana Wa'a, the
2 collective entity for all of the voyaging canoes in Hawai'i,
3 including Hōkūle'a, Makali'i, Hawai'iloa, Mo'okiha, Namahoe, and
4 Hokualaka'i, to which 'Imiloa contributed resources, tools, and
5 strategic support, including through its planetarium, to further
6 teach and perpetuate Hawaiian navigation; and
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8 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa has partnered with Mauna Kea Observatories
9 to bring scientific research and discoveries to the public via
10 education programs and collaborations; and
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12 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa deepened communication and partnerships
13 across a multitude of sectors, including formal higher
14 education, research institutions, Hawaiian epistemological views
15 and practice, and the local and global community, combining
16 indigenous and scientific efforts to create solutions that
17 benefit broader populations; and
18

19 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa is the only astronomical science center in
20 the world that offers bilingual and bicultural educational
21 experiences honoring the Native Hawaiian culture and the
22 surrounding environment and provides a leading model for
23 integrated, culture-based science education and community
24 engagement; and
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26 WHEREAS, the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, as the parent
27 organization of 'Imiloa, has resolved to prioritize the
28 meaningful increase of education and engagement of Native
29 Hawaiian students, Hawai'i island residents, and residents of the
30 State in the areas of astronomy, celestial navigation, and
31 exploration; and
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33 WHEREAS, the University of Hawai'i at Hilo has also
34 prioritized providing financial support to implement an active
35 educational and outreach program that highlights Native Hawaiian
36 knowledge and enhances student access to and utilization of
37 Mauna Kea based astronomical resources in the field; and
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39 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa will work with the Thirty-Meter Telescope
40 Project and the Office of Mauna Kea Management to develop
41 informational exhibits for Hale Pōhaku for visitors regarding



1 the natural, cultural, and archaeological resources of Mauna
2 Kea; and

3
4 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa will work with the Thirty-Meter Telescope
5 Project and the Office of Mauna Kea Management to develop a
6 Thirty-Meter Telescope outreach office that will work with
7 Native Hawaiian groups to support and fund programs specific to
8 Hawaiian culture and archaeological resources; now, therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
11 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that this body
12 supports and encourages the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center to further
13 its role in developing and leading educational efforts
14 concerning the cultural, natural, and historic resources on
15 Mauna Kea at Hale Pōhaku; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body encourages the
18 transfer of the education outreach efforts and operations at the
19 University of Hawai'i operated Mauna Kea Visitor Information
20 Station Onizuka Center for International Astronomy to the 'Imiloa
21 Astronomy Center; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
24 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the
25 Board of Land and Natural Resources, Chancellor of the
26 University of Hawai'i at Hilo, Executive Director of the 'Imiloa
27 Astronomy Center, Chair of the Board of Directors of the
28 Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i, Chair of the
29 Senate Standing Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the
30 House of Representatives Standing Committee on Water, Land, and
31 Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Office
32 of Hawaiian Affairs, all county mayors, and Pelekikena 'Aha Hui
33 Siwila 'o Ke Aloha 'Āina.
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OFFERED BY:

